

WILDLAND FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

September 26, 2018

DNR SE Region Large Conference Room

713 Bowers Road

Ellensburg, WA

Committee Members Present:

Gary Berndt – Wildland Fire Liaison, Chair
Cody Desautel – Tribal Nations Representative
Randy Johnson – Fire Chief (Eastside) *Conference Call*
Melissa Gannie – Assistant Fire Marshall *Conference Call*
Dave LaFave – Fire Chief (Westside)
J.D Marshall – Industry Landowner (Timber) *Conference Call*
Jim DeTro – County Commissioner (Eastside)
Reese Lolley – Statewide Environmental Representative
Russ Pfeiffer-Hoyt – State Land Trust Beneficiary
Tony Craven – Small Forest Landowner
Lee Hemmer – Industry Landowner (Range)

Committee Members Absent:

George Geissler – Deputy Supervisor Wildfire
Dave Johnson – Fire Commissioner
Joe Gardner – County Commissioner (Westside)
Rodney Smoldon – Federal Fire Agency
Chuck LeBlanc – State Fire Marshal

Guests/Other Attendees:

Chuck Turley - Wildfire Division Manager
Julie Sackett - Forest Health Division Manager
Loren Torgerson - Wildfire Policy Advisor
Hilary Lundgren - Wa State Fire Adapted Community Learning Network
Erika Stone - Administrative Assistant to Wildfire Division Manager
Shelly Goodwin - Assistant to Wildland Fire Liaison
Jim Passage - Guest

I. Opening, Roll Call

The meeting of the Wildland Fire Advisory Committee was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on September 26, 2018 in Ellensburg, WA. Roll was taken, 8 members were present and 5 members were excused. Due to travel constraints, 3 members participated in the meeting by phone, constituting a quorum.

II. Introductions

Shelly Goodwin and Erika Stone were introduced. Erika Stone had members who wanted travel reimbursement fill out new forms.

III. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the August 22, 2018 council meeting were presented in draft and reviewed. Motion to approve draft minutes as corrected made by Committee member Russ Pfeiffer-Hoyt, seconded by Committee member Lee Hemmer. Motion carried with Aye's.

IV. DNR/WSP Update

- a. Melissa Gannie from the State Fire Marshal's office reported things are starting to slow down. Spent an estimate of 9.1 million this fire season. All response comes from disaster account and 4 million per fiscal year is estimated in the budget.
- b. Chuck Turley Wildfire division manager reported that Wildfire and Forest Health have now split in to two divisions. Julie Sackett will be the Forest Health division manager. Julie and Chuck will report to George Geissler. With this split there will be some adding of positions. First the vacant funded positions will be filled. Chuck also informed that there have been 1429 fires with 35,000 acres burned and on DNR land there has been 1244 fires with 42,000 acres burned. Crescent and McCloud demob today. Type 2 on Klondike – team times out Sunday and will be replaced Monday. There will be a rotation of teams until it snows. There has been a lot of help from around the country. We were able to repay some of that in Canada and various states. We brought 20 red card required engine bosses from out of state and with their training we now have 42 qualified engine bosses that we didn't have before the season.
- c. Loren Torgerson Wildfire Policy Advisor gave a strategic plan update. He sent out a draft to executive working group and WFAC. He requested comments be provided by Friday September 28th and the following week he will collate all the responses and decide what will be incorporated into a new draft. The hope is to be done by the end of October. Gary requested everyone run it by their constituents. There was also comments on QWRA – Quantitate Wildfire Risk Assessment.
- d. Lee Hemmer discussed the Grass Valley Fire. He said there will be a tour on October 4 and the meeting place is Grand Coulee.
- e. Julie Sackett Forest Health division manager discussed the Landscape Evaluation Summary, she requested comments and feedback from WFAC. Also discussed was Forest Health Capitol Budget and staffing needs. FHAC has a meeting this Thursday October 4th in Cle Elum.
- f. Reese Lolley and Hilary Lundgren had a WAFAC discussion a handout and presentation on Fire Adapted Communities – Promoting Ecosystem Resiliency and Fire Adapted Communities Together.

V. Old Business

- a. No Old Business was discussed, will add to the October agenda.

VI. Chairman Report

Chairman Berndt, provided a verbal chair report.

Gary requested a conference call be scheduled this Monday afternoon to discuss the budget request.

VII. New Business

- a. No New Business was discussed will add to the October agenda.

VIII. Final Q&A

- IX. Jim Passage commented that the word community is being used a lot more now than it was when he first started attending these meetings and that is encouraging.

X. Adjournment and Next Meeting

By consensus, the committee decided to schedule the next general meeting at 10 am, on October 24, 2018, Southeast Regional Office in the large conference room 713 Bowers Rd. Ellensburg. The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 12:55 p.m.

Draft minutes submitted by Shelly Goodwin, approved by Chairman Gary Berndt. Formal action to be taken to approve the minutes at the October 24, 2018 meeting.